

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-19 are pending in this application. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-19 are amended to conform to U.S. claim format, for example, by (1) eliminating multiple dependent claims, and (2) revising "characterized in that" to "wherein."

An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:TJP/nxy

Date: December 6, 2004

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